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今日北京

# BEIJING TODAY

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## WHAT LIES WITHIN?

YOUNG ARTIST TANGO TAM SAYS HIS SEARCH FOR ART  
BEGINS WITHIN. IF HIS PAINTINGS ARE ANY INDICATOR,  
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北京青年报  
BEIJING YOUTH DAILY

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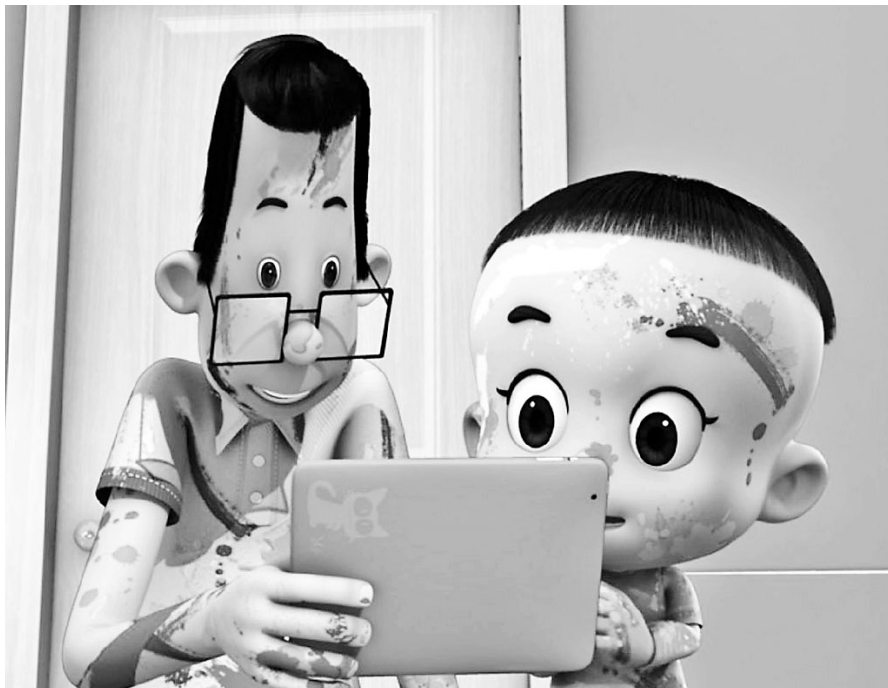
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# ENTERTAINMENT



2013 reboot



1995 original

## Viewers Blast CCTV's Cartoon Reboot

BY LI RUIQI

Last year, CCTV Kids rolled out *New Big Head Son and Small Head Dad*, a remake of one of the channel's most popular cartoons of the 1990s. It was the network's latest attempt to duplicate the success of an old show by updating it with flashy 3D art.

When the show ended its one-year run last week, it did so with dismal ratings and almost universal disdain.

The most critical viewers hailed it as "a destroyer of childhoods."

With its humorous and somewhat realistic portrayal of an average family, *Big Head Son and Small Head Dad* was one of the most popular animations of the 1990s. Its storytelling and production

were nothing particularly impressive, but the show excelled at capturing the era and creating characters that found a place in pop culture. "From the dialogue to the costumes – everything in that show touched something from my childhood. The son's family was as familiar as my real neighbors," said Wang Xiaozhuo, a student in her 20s.

Dong Hang, the head of CCTV Animation, said the new version was intended as a reboot rather than a remake and that the company hoped to drag its classic characters into the era of digital animation.

"The 3D design makes it possible for characters to have more fluid and natural expressions. Their exaggerated features were chosen to meet the tastes of today's

children," he said.

But CCTV miscalculated.

The new characters not only failed to win attention but inspired an entire generation to lament the network's loss of inspiration.

"The characters are like fine dolls without souls," said Liu Ziyu, an undergraduate student at Communication University of China. Others said the comparison to "fine dolls" was already too generous.

In one episode of *New Big Head Son and Small Head Dad*, the angry mother swells to become a giant with a distorted face backed by flames. Many viewers said it was a rather insulting way to depict an angry mom.

"It is no longer the Chinese cartoon I remember. It looks like yet another Japanese show made for the Internet," said a Douban user named Keximodeshu.

That the son and dad still love each other might be the only comfort for disappointed fans of the original.

The failure of the domestic market to produce any breakout animated show has left many studios to fall back on "adapting" the classics. But producers would be advised to remember that it takes more than a new design to remake an old show for a new audience.

Classics carry the baggage of their generation's collective memory, and living up to that can be even more challenging than discovering an original hit. ■



## The Diaries of Boys and Girls

BY DIAO DIAO

Children's literature in China is often limited to exaggerated fairytales with bright pictures. But for growing children these can be too simple. Older children and younger teens often fall into a neglected literary zone, being both too old for children's books and too immature to appreciate more mature literature.

Yang Hongying's novels were some of the first to target this group.

The female writer from Sichuan province is a former elementary school teacher and the author of many fairytales. Her breakout novel *Girl's Diary* is based on observations of her daughter and classmates as they operated

within the encapsulated society of primary school.

The book's stories are in the form of diaries of girls between the ages of 11 and 12 as they begin to go through physical and mental changes. The book contains casual stories of big changes in a girl's life, such as the first time one wears a bra, gets her period or develops feeling for a boy.

The diaries describe the confusing period of time when teens want to grow up while staying young.

The success of *Girl's Diary* led Yang to work on a follow-up book, *Boy's Diary*. The second story is written from the perspective of a male classmate who is

a friend of one of the girls in the first book. *Boy's Diary* is set after the students have been split up into different middle schools.

The *Diary* series includes realistic portrayals of modern family arrangements and broken marriages. It also shows the new approach to teaching used in primary schools that began with education reforms at the turn of the century.

*Girl's Diary* was first published in 2000 and it has remained a top seller among elementary school students ever since. Some adults are also fans since the books offer a very accurate window back into childhood. ■



# MUSIC



Photos by Byebye Noise

## Byebye Noise The Search for Rock's Calming Power

BY DIAO DIAO

**F**our experienced musicians and a lead singer who was still too young to drink came together to found Byebye Noise when the world didn't end in 2012.

In spite of its name, the group's garage sound clearly worships at the altar of late 1990s and early 2000s rockers like The Hives and The Strokes. The Chinese name of the band refers to white noise, the static of the universe that can help to fight insomnia.

But putting people to sleep is the last thing Byebye Noise wants.

The band's live shows have been applauded for offering just enough of the 1990s rock sound to give people something familiar while adding their own coarse touch to shape something new.

"The limits between different genre

are becoming way too vague. That's one of the reasons we like rock. It's such a big world that you can hardly say what makes it appealing," the band said.

While it may be difficult to hammer the group into a rock genre or subgenre (or sub-subgenre), Byebye Noise knows exactly what it gets from its music.

"Most people see passion and love in rock, but we think rock can have a calming effect," the band said. "Rock has never lacked passion, but it grows when controlled by logic and power. It's the difference between music and noise."

With skillful compositions and emotionally driven lyrics that are neither arrogant nor sentimental, the group has won more fans with its sound than its personality. Most of the members treat the band as

a second job and attempt to practice close to eight hours a day.

The lead singer Songsong and guitarist Hulk Chang are the only two members who work outside the music industry: Songsong works for a performing arts agency and Chang works in a foreign company.

Guitarist Wang Wei is a professional composer and Dudu, the bassist, works as a music producer and mixer.

The band is preparing for its national tour that will follow the release of their debut album in 2015. ■



## LIVE SHOW ROUNDUP

*Beijing boasts one of the world's most vibrant indie music scenes. Support our local artists with a trip to one of this week's live performances!*

### SMZB @ MAO Livehouse

SMZB is an old Chinese punk band founded in 1996. The songs for its new album *A Letter from China* were completed during Wu Wei's trip in 2012. They laid down the album last year and invited Steve Foote of the American punk band Big D and the Kid's Table to complete the mixing in March.

☉ January 3, 8:30-11:30 pm  
📍 111 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng  
💎 60 yuan pre sale, 80 yuan at door

### New Year Coming Party @ Monkey Mountain Club

Monkey Mountain Club will hold a nostalgic party to welcome the New Year. Bands including DID, Auburn, Chaobeibang and Sexydiffuse will join the party. The second party will begin at midnight on January 3.

☉ January 2, 9-11:30 pm  
📍 8 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang  
💎 50 yuan

### China Town @ DDC Club

China Town was formed by Beijing-based composers Jess Meider and Gao Fang in 2012. The pair put together amazing layers of groove, guitar, keyboards and vocals. Sit or stand, have a beer and say hello to your friends. Chinatown invites you in and relaxes you through the ears and down into the heart and feet.

☉ January 3, 9-11 pm  
📍 14 Meishuguan, Houjieshan, Lao Hutong, Dongcheng  
💎 32 yuan



### Mongolian Folk @ Lanxi Bar

Tuliguer is a Mongolian folk singer. His name means "pillar to the sky" in Mongolian. He studied classic music but then fell in love with rock. In college, he majored in Bel Canto and held his own concerts. Tuliguer uses guitar and Khoomei to capture the spirit of his home and express his music.

☉ January 3, 9:30-11:30 pm  
📍 183 Jiugulou Dajie, Xicheng  
💎 40 yuan



Dudu



Songsong



Wang Wei



Hulk Chang





# ARTISTS



Sadness Comes with the Wind



Find an Exit at Last, This or Next Second



Blue Stone Beneath Red Skin



Reincarnation



Blinded by Red



A Train to Jiagedaqi Photos by Tango Tam

## Finding Inspiration from Within

### Tango Tam's Art Journey

BY LYNNE WANG

**P**ainters from the 1970s and 1980s fought hard throughout the last decade to win recognition in Chinese art circles, but a few younger artists are already making waves.

Born in 1991, Tango Tam finished his studies at the Guangxi Art Institute in April. His graduation project displays a very fresh and warm interpretation of the world.

Called *Start From This Point*, Tam completed the collection with classmate and collaborator Huang Jiahui. Each supplied six pieces that make skillful use of color, light and shadow. Tam's portraits show off his wild imagination and distinctive artistic language.

"For me, 'the point' means a moment of emotional explosion. It's a single point after which one could suddenly pass away like a life that's too short. I want there to be some record that I lived," Tam said.

"My works are my thoughts on the

world. I have the courage to accept all of them even if they are pale, angry, selfish and lowly because I know change is coming," he said.

Influenced by his father, a designer, Tam began to study art when he was three years old. Hard silhouettes and anatomical poses are imprinted on his soul. But as a young artist, it is still early to define the style of his creations. Tam's art reflects uncertainty for future and a refusal to abandon his extreme position.

In *Find an Exit at Last, This or Next Second*, Tam depicts a man whose brain is full of endless, spiraling steps. Using purple and malachite green as the main tones, the picture gives an odd and perplexing feeling about its subject, a young man who is afraid of tomorrow.

In *Blue Stone Beneath Red Skin*, Tam hoists himself up as the hero of his work. In the picture, Tam smokes and twists his face. Oddly enough, there's also a horse whose legs are tied

with line and which has extra mouths throughout its head.

It seems all of his paintings attempt to tell a story, even if many are fantastic. That obsession with capturing extreme emotion may be why he has devoted so much time to his portraits.

"I want to get at the emotions hidden behind each face. Even if it's just imagination, it will keep me satisfied and fulfilled, and I like that," he says. "On the other hand, I appreciate minimalism and post rock: quiet worlds that are full of disturbance. For me, all of them reveal the nature of this hypocritical world."

Apart from his distinctive portraits and deviant atmosphere, Tam's other art captures a sense of isolation. In *Present*, created in 2013, Tam depicts a girl who hovers in front of a church window while she debates whether to extend a hand to the disadvantaged.

"I referenced the stained glass windows of Antoni Gaud and Alphonse

Mucha. I know it is kind of cheesy, but I really found myself through the journey of this creation," Tam said.

Walking the lines between pop, super-realism and cubism, it seems hard to define where Tam's work belongs. His works pop with self-awareness, anxiety and visual effect, but are free of the usual depression, *Guangxi Nation Paper* said in an editorial.

"I know I don't fit in and that it won't make things easy for me. I don't care about the technique, material and medium – it's the thought that matters, not the form," he said.

"All that matter is where we land when we ultimately pass away."

Tam sees the modern era as one that is woefully fragmented and the structure of society like a table without legs. "The only truth I want to find is the one that's buried deep within us," he says. ■

behance.net/cygne

weibo.com/3o3kissmyass



# A TRAVEL

BY LI RUIQI

Skiing is one of Beijing's most popular winter sports and a great way to escape the city on the weekends. Rediscover your love of the snow at some of the popular nearby resorts!

## Hit the slopes for Weekend Skiing

### Nanshan Ski

Located in southern Miyun, Nanshan is the home of Beijing's only X-chute with a maximum incline of 35 degrees. For snow boarders, it's a good place to go if you want to soar over the capital's first U-shaped snowboard track.

The center offers a lot of options for recreations. Take the dry land slide track to zoom through the mountain's endless twists, take a sleigh ride or go tire skiing on the slopes in the warm sun.

In addition to its many professional facilities, Nanshan offers training and safety courses for children and beginners. Beginners can take the aerial ski lift or ask for ground towing. Besides exercise tracks, there are mogul slopes, wave slopes and mushroom barrier tracks tailored for players of different skill levels.

The Nanshan Express runs every day between Beijing and Nanshan Ski. It departs at 8:30 am and returns at 5:30 pm. A round ticket is usually priced 40 yuan. Because this is the middle of ski season, it's a good idea to call in advance to reserve a seat. The bus makes two stops in Wudaokou and Sanyuanqiao.

Weekend admission to the slopes costs 380 yuan per person for a 4-hour stay. Book a day in advance to save 140 yuan on your ticket. More details are available at Nanshan's website.

⌚ 8:45 am-5:30 pm  
 📍 Shengshuitou Village Henan-zhai County, Miyun  
 ☎ (010) 8909 1909  
 🌐 nanshanski.com

### Huaibei Ski

Wooden villas on the snowy ski slopes are what make Huaibei Ski stand out. The Finnish buildings offer a chance to experience an authentic European ski trip without the trouble of a passport or plane ticket.

And unlike many Chinese ski resorts, which tend to have a reputation for poor food, Huaibei offers great dishes from Taiwan.

Aside from the snowy sights, the resort offers a bird's-eye view of the Mutianyu Great Wall from the cable lift and a chance to visit the conference room where many heads of state met to negotiate Asia-Pacific economic issues during the 2014 APEC.

As a basin surrounded by the Great Wall, Huaibei has the best climate for snowmaking and the highest quality snow among Beijing's ski slopes. Tracks in Huaibei are longer and gentler than those in other ski resorts and beginners will find it easier to keep their balance. Night skiing is also available.



Photo by tupian.hudong.com



Photo by cph.com.cn

Magic Carpet and 8 Cross are two new tracks unveiled for this year and The Park No.7 is reputed to be one of the country's best single-board ski experiences.

The drive from downtown Beijing to Huaibei Ski takes about two hours and follows the Jingcheng Expressway. Bus 936 connects the resort with downtown Beijing. On weekends, passengers can catch the Huaibei Express at the Guomao or Shaoyaoju subway stations. Bus reservations are required.

A single ticket for a whole day costs 340 yuan on the weekend. Book in advance to save 140 yuan. More details are available on the website.

⌚ 8:30 am-5 pm(day); 4:30-9:30 pm(night)  
 📍 548 Hefangkou Village, Huaibei County, Huairou  
 ☎ (010) 8969 6677  
 🌐 hbski.com



Photo by topic.rbc.cn



Photo by douban.com



Photo by tuniu.com

### Other Recommended Resorts

#### Jundushan Ski

📍 588 Zhenshun Village, Cuicun County, Changping  
 ☎ (010) 6072 5888  
 🌐 bjski.com.cn

#### Yunfoshan Ski

📍 Xiwenzhuang County, Miyun (near Yunfoshan Resort)  
 ☎ (010) 8903 2601  
 🌐 yfski.com

#### Yunju Ski

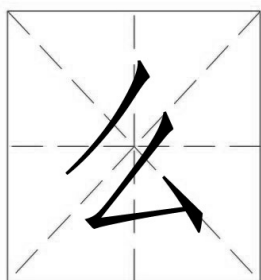
📍 Caijiakou, Zhangfang County, Fangshan  
 ☎ (010) 6138 9800  
 🌐 yunjuski.com





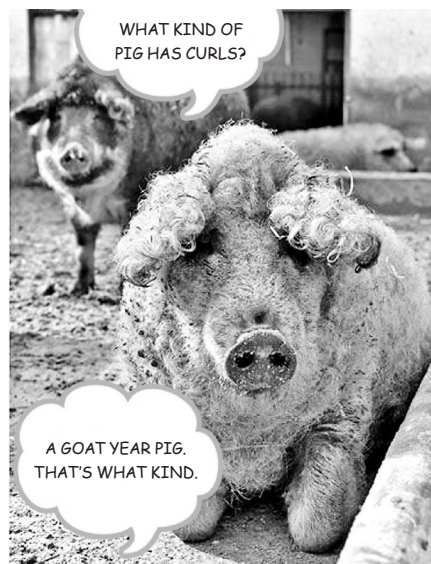
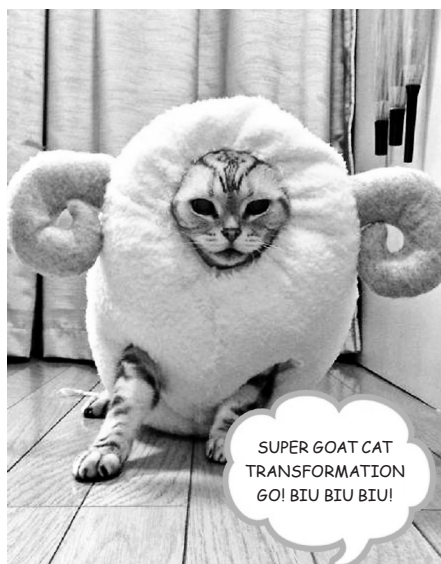
# Netspeak: Sarcasm and Kisses

萌

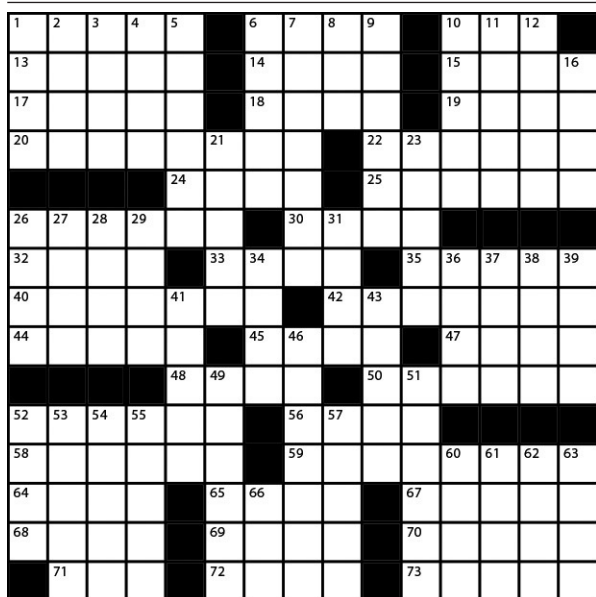


A cartoon illustration of a hand holding a large, round, smiling character with a small, round, sad character below it. The large character has a wide, open-mouthed smile and large, round eyes. The small character has a sad, closed-mouth expression and large, round eyes. The hand is holding the large character from the top. The signature 'TANG' is visible in the bottom right corner.

# Pets Embrace the Year of the Goat

[illegible]

## THE BEIJING TODAY CROSSWORD



EDITOR: YANG XIN ■ DESIGNER: PAN FAN



# Q CLASSIFIEDS

## MUSIC



### Nathaniel Gao Jazz Quartet

Nathaniel Gao is a saxophonist and composer who has been based in Beijing since 2006. He has been a key contributor to the local jazz scene as co-leader of the quintet Red and a leader of his own quartet and trio. Additionally, Gao has been active in an eclectic range of other musical projects including Three Sergeants Syndrome, the Beijing City Big Band, Afrokoko Roots and Bu Yiding. He has performed at the Ninegates Jazz Festival, the MIDI Jazz Festival, the Ditan Park Music Festival and at major venues in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. Gao graduated in 2006 with BA in music performance and in 2011 completed an MA in jazz at the City College of New York.

⌚ 10 pm - 1 am, January 3, 10, 17, 31  
 📍 East Shore Live Jazz Cafe, 2/F,  
 2 Qianhai Nanyan Lu, Xicheng (west of  
 the post office on Di'anmenwai)  
 ☎ (010) 8403 2131



### Chinese Modern Guys, Li Shi, Sleep Paralysis, Hard Candy Revolution, The Hotline, Quick Shot

Local promotion group Super School Fighter is celebrating its second anniversary!

Even if you don't know any of the bands playing at this anniversary show, you've probably heard of The Diders, Heat Mark, Secret Club, The Big Wave, Free Sex Shop and Gate to Otherside. What do they all have in common? They've cut their chops playing Super School Fighter shows over the past couple years.

Super School Fighter is dedicated to finding Beijing's top new bands and giving them

a stage to test their tunes. Nobody works harder and is less recognized than the brain behind Super School Fighter Gu Jingping.

⌚ 8 - 11:30 pm, January 10  
 📍 School Bar, 53 Wudaoying Hutong, Chaoyang  
 💎 30 yuan  
 ☎ (010) 6402 8881  
 ✉ schoolbegins@gmail.com  
 🌐 musikid.com/tour/250

## STAGE



### Flamenco Legacy Workshop with La Tati

La Tati is a world-renowned flamenco legend awarded by UNESCO. This is a one-week workshop for everyone interested in flamenco dance. You will have the opportunity to work with La Tati to fill in the missing gaps in past training and unlock the secrets of flamenco.

Mastering contemporary flamenco requires knowledge of the art form's evolution. La Tati knows how to get the best out of dancers, to fill you with courage and help you move forward and find the passion within.

⌚ 7 - 9:30 pm, January 12 - 18  
 📍 Casa Flamenco, 11-1-14, 9 Jianwai Dajie, Qijiyuan Diplomatic Residence Compound, Chaoyang  
 💎 300 yuan per class  
 ☎ (010) 8532 1915  
 ✉ flamencobeijing@gmail.com

## NIGHTLIFE



### Dim Sum Disco Presents San Soda

San Soda is back! The Berlin-via-Belgium house music phenomenon took Asia by storm during his 2014 spring tour, however a freak thunderstorm hovering over Beijing on May 1 left him stranded on a Hebei tarmac and unable to make his debut appearance in the capital. Fast forward a few months and now the relentless party fiends over at Dim Sum Disco have called San Soda back into ser-

vice and set him up for your first not-to-be-missed party of 2015.

⌚ 10 pm - 4:30 am, January 10  
 📍 The Bar at Migas, 6/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang  
 💎 50 yuan  
 ☎ (010) 5208 6061

## COMMUNITY



### Kindermusik with Lampel: Music, Movement, Story Telling and Fun

Create memories and make learning fun in our classes for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and big kids!

In Lampel's music classes, participants sing, dance, giggle, hop, travel on imaginative adventures, cuddle, play instruments, share ideas, read stories and celebrate the uniqueness of each child. As a trained and licensed Kindermusik educator, Lampel leads the class through music and movement activities with proven developmental benefits that include boosting early literacy and language abilities, social-emotional skills and cognitive development. Classes offer parents and children a chance to enjoy special one-on-one moments of bonding together.

⌚ 10 - 11 am, January 10  
 📍 Ivy Academy, Central Park Campus, 24 Central Park, 6 Chaoyangmen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang  
 ☎ (010) 5738 4599  
 ✉ ljsolis\_miles@ymail.com  
 🌐 kindermusik.com/lampel

## TRAVEL

### Two-Hour Flights to Hengshan

China United Airline announced the opening of its new air route from Beijing Nanyuan Airport to Hengyang Nanyue Airport on December 23.

The round-trip flight is numbered KN5701 and KN5702. It departs Beijing Nanyuan at 9:10 am and arrives at Hengyang Nanyue at 11:25 am. The return flight takes off from Hengyang Nanyue at 12:05 pm and arrives in Beijing at 2:20 pm. The flight lasts 135 minutes.

Through December 31, 2015, tourists who arrive in Hengyang on the flight will receive free admission to the Grand Temple of Hengshan within three days of their arrival. Tourists must present their boarding pass and ID card to qualify.

From May 31, tourists can enjoy free tickets of all National A-class tourist scenic spots in Hengyang except for Nanyue. Tourists can also save 15 percent on their stay in any star-rated hotel and 20 percent on their meals.

Located in the middle reaches of Xiangjiang River, Hengyang is a tourist destination in Hunan province with many cultural sites and scenic areas like Hengshan.

## ART



### Zhang Xiaotao: In the Realm of the Microcosmic

Pekin Fine Arts is hosting its first solo exhibition of artist Zhang Xiaotao, a graduate of the oil painting department at the Sichuan Fine Arts Academy.

Zhang's video animations *Sakya* (2010-2011) and *The Adventures of Liang Liang* (2012-2013) were exhibited at the 55th Venice Biennale as part of the China National Pavilion's group. He co-founded the Sichuan Fine Arts Academy's New Media Studies Department in 2010, where he works as a professor advocating increased support for new media art and a pioneer of new media innovation. Zhang is earning a doctoral degree at Beijing's Central Academy of Fine Arts with Xu Bing as his advisor.

⌚ 10 am - 6 pm, January 5  
 📍 Pekin Fine Arts, 241 Caochangdi, Cuigezhuang, Chaoyang  
 ☎ (010) 5127 3220  
 🌐 pekinfinearts.com

## SPORTS

### Volleyball Saturdays at 2 PM

Meet for a game of volleyball with a big mix of women and men from all over the world. Games are Saturdays from 2 - 4 pm.

Players meet at a nice indoor hall by the Beihai Park Sports School. Head 50 meters east of Exit B to the Sports School entrance, then walk inside past the first building, turn right, and on your left will be the entrance to the second building. Take the left double doors inside to the multi-function sports hall.

Basic volleyball skills are expected. The warm-up session should help you remember any moves or rules you may have forgotten. Court rental costs 560 yuan for two hours with the fee shared by the players. It typically costs 45 - 55 yuan.

⌚ 2 - 4 pm, January 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 31  
 📍 Shichahai Sports School, 57 Dianmen Xidajie, Xicheng  
 💎 560 yuan divided by the number of players  
 ☎ (010) 6618 5853

## YACHT



www.hackerboat.com





# HOLIDAY FOODS



Photo by CFP

## China's New Year's Food: Niangao

BY DIAO DIAO

January will not mark the beginning of the new Chinese lunar year in 2015, but it's still the time when many winter cooking traditions are brought out for a period of pre-celebration.

Niangao, sometimes known as rice cakes, are one of the culinary cornerstones of the Chinese New Year. While most cakes are made of steamed glutinous rice, the northern variety often uses corn flour as a substitute. Niangao are also called as "nianniangao," because the phrase is a homonym for things getting better year-by-year.

Celebrating the Chinese New Year holiday is referred to "guo nian," with the verb guo meaning to pass. Ancient stories tell of "nian" as a monster from the mountains that would storm into the villages

each winter to eat people.

The clever Gao family came up with a plan to hang rice strips outside their home to stuff the monster with rice before it could eat anyone in the village. "Guo nian" and "niangao" are both homages to the popular story.

Niangao can be steamed, fried or boiled. In Zhejiang province, people add bean sprouts, pork and marinated shrimp to the rice before steaming. Vendors pour a broth over the niangao before serving to make it taste thicker.

The most famous niangao is Zhejiang's Cicheng niangao. The cakes are made of milled japonica rice that has been soaked in water for a week.

Fuzhou niangao is made using sticky rice powder, peanuts, jujubes and red

beans with brown sugar. Suzhou niangao is popular in Jiangsu and Guangdong, where it is flavored with rose, osmanthus, jujube and mint. Many people batter thin slices of niangao with an egg wash and fry them in lard.

Hainan niangao is often sliced into thin pieces and boiled in chicken stock or another thick soup.

Beijing's niangao is available throughout the year in most Hui ethnic restaurants. Red beans and sweet bean paste, jujubes and other small snacks are often used to flavor Beijing niangao.

Yellow niangao can be eaten with or without sugar: some people prefer the bitter taste of the jujubes. Many Beijing families serve niangao in a hotpot or make their own at home during the holidays. ■

## Huoluhuo's Niangao Hotpot

BY DIAO DIAO

Huoluhuo is a Korean restaurant in Beijing that's as popular with locals as it is with the Korean expat community. Its niangao hotpot is famous for being the capital's finest.

Red is the most popular color during Spring Festival, and Chinese people often like to eat something red in hopes of enjoying a better life in the coming year. Korean hotpot meets both requirements with its fiery color and auspicious ingredients.

Huoluhuo's niangao hotpot has a thick taste and spicy flavor that speaks to its Korean origins. For those looking for an alternative, the restaurant also offers cheese niangao hotpot, barbecue hotpot and Huoluhuo niangao hotpot with soup and other food such as cabbage, tofu, sausage and noodles.

A single big hotpot can serve three people at lunch.

Cheesy rice, fried chicken and red bean ice are the most ordered foods. Its sweet, fried chicken has also been popular since the debut of the Korean drama *My Love From the Star*. ■



Huoluhuo niangao hotpot



Fried chicken



Red bean ice

Photos by dianping.com

### MAKE YOUR OWN WITH THIS RECIPE

## Learn to Make Yellow Niangao

BY DIAO DIAO

The white version of niangao is widely available in Beijing's restaurants and supermarkets, but the older yellow form is becoming lost.

Beijing tradition regards yellow as the color of wealth and happiness, and the corn flour used to make this type of niangao is good for digestion. Yellow niangao is often made with jujubes and red bean paste.

#### Ingredients:

- 300g corn flour
- 100g jujubes
- sugar water oil



Photo by douguo.com

#### The steps:

1. Add the corn flour to a mixing bowl. Boil the jujubes for 2 minutes and reserve the water.
2. Peel and core the boiled jujubes and drop the fruit into the corn flour. For a sweet taste, add sugar to the water when boiling the jujubes.
3. Use a big spoon to stir the corn flour while slowly pouring the water from the jujubes into the mixing bowl. When the flour clings into a dough, use your hands to knead it to an even consistency. Cover and let stand for 10 minutes.
4. Oil the inside of a steaming pot. Put the kneaded dough into the pot and smooth the surface. Steam for 30 minutes.
5. When the niangao cools, use a spoon to loosen it from the edge of the pot. Allow it to cool, then cut it into squares and serve.

#### Huoluhuo Restaurant

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